

September 29, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Ms. Karen Majcher
Vice President, High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: Certification of Support for Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to 47 C.F.R Sections 54.314, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256 and Annual Report for Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to 47 C.F.R Sections 54.209

Dear Mss. Dortch and Majcher:

Enclosed, please find the annual Certification of Support and Annual Report as filed by Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. ("FMTI"), a rural incumbent local exchange carrier owned by the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe of Arizona, California and Nevada. As a tribally-owned carrier, FMTI is not subject to the jurisdiction of any state commission and was designated as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier by the Federal Communications Commission.

Please note that the enclosed filing is confidential and proprietary. A redacted version of this filing was electronically filed with the Commission today and electronically mailed to USAC. Please direct any questions regarding this filing to me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Jarvis, Consultant to Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.
Senior Financial Consultant
TCA, Inc.



cc: Linda Gutierrez, Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.

TCA Headquarters

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**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service)	CC Docket No. 96-45
)	

**Request of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.
For Confidential Treatment**


Pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's Rules, Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. ("FMTI") requests confidentiality with respect to the submission of the Annual Certification of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. in CC Docket 96-45.

The following information is submitted pursuant to Section 0.459(b) of the Commission's rules:

- (1) FMTI requests that the Annual Certification and Exhibit A attached herewith be given confidential treatment.
- (2) The Annual Certification and Exhibit A are submitted to the Commission pursuant to *Report and Order in the Matter of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, FCC 05-46, CC 96-45, rel. March 17, 2005.
- (3) Specific details, including financial, contained in the Annual Certification and Exhibit A are confidential commercial information routinely withheld from public inspection in accordance with Section 0.457(d) of FCC Rules.
- (4) The information contained herein is of both a financial and competitive nature regarding the provision of telecommunications services. The telecommunications industry is highly competitive.
- (5) The financial and competitive information provided herein is information that would not customarily be released to the public. Due to the competitive environment of the marketplace, release of this information could substantially harm FMTI's business and physical infrastructure.

- (6) In order to prevent unauthorized disclosure of the subject information, the attached Annual Certification and Exhibit A are being filed via express delivery service.
- (7) The subject information is not available to the public or any third parties.
- (8) Pursuant to Section 0.457(d) of the Commission's rules the subject material is not routinely available for public inspection and should continue to be withheld from public inspection at any time now or in the future.
- (9) Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Linda Gutierrez
General Manager
Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.
8490 South Highway 95, Suite 104
Mohave Valley, AZ 86440
(928) 346-2500

September 28, 2011

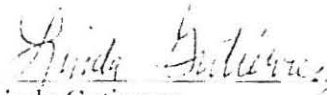
AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF ARIZONA)	
)	
FORT MOJAVE INDIAN TRIBE)	CC Docket No. 96-45
OF ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA AND)	
NEVADA)	

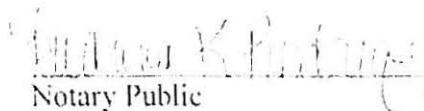
BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Linda Gutierrez of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. ("FMTI"), Study Area 452200 who on his oath deposed and said:

1. My name is Linda Gutierrez, I am employed by FMTI in the position of General Manager. I am personally familiar with all federal universal service support received by FMTI and how such funds are used by FMTI.
2. FMTI is owned by the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe of Arizona, California and Nevada and serves solely on its own land. Therefore, FMTI is not subject to the jurisdictions of the Arizona Corporation Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission or the Nevada Public Utility Commission.
3. FMTI was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier by the Federal Communications Commission by order dated February 27, 1998 which authorized FMTI to receive universal service support retroactive to January 1, 1998 (CC Docket No. 96-45, DA 98-393).
4. FMTI hereby certifies that all federal high-cost universal service support received will be used only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.
5. Pursuant to federal regulations (47 C.F.R. §54.314), this Affidavit is submitted to the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company, the current Administrator of the high-cost universal service support mechanism.

6. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.


Linda Gutierrez

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this the 11 day of September 2011.


Notary Public
State of Arizona

SEAL:



**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service)	CC Docket No. 96-45
)	

Annual Certification of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.

Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. ("FMTI" or the "Company") study area code 452200, an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") serving on the federally-recognized lands of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe in the states of Arizona, California and Nevada, hereby submits this annual certification in compliance with the Commission's Order¹ in the above-noted proceeding. The Commission designated FMTI as an ETC on February 27, 1998 and authorized FMTI to receive universal service support retroactive to January 1, 1998.²

1. Construction Plan Progress and Use of Support

Within the Certification Order, the Commission requires that FMTI, as an ETC, submit "progress reports on the ETC's five-year service quality improvement plan..."³ FMTI has previously filed with the Commission a five-year service quality improvement plan for the years 2010 – 2014.⁴ It hereby provides progress on its plan (see Exhibit A).

FMTI received a total of [REDACTED] in federal high cost support during 2010. Over that same time period, the company made investment and incurred costs of [REDACTED] to provide telecommunications service to the residents of the Fort Mojave Reservation.

¹ *Report and Order in the Matter of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, FCC 05-46, rel. March 17, 2005 ("Certification Order").

² Memorandum Opinion and Order In the Matter of Designation of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc., Gila River Telecommunications, Inc., San Carlos Telecommunications, Inc. and Tohono O'odham Utility Authority as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to Section 214(e)(6) of the Communications Act, DA 98-393, rel. February 27, 1998 ("FMTI ETC Order").

³ Certification Order, para. 69.

⁴ Annual Certification of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc., CC Docket 96-45, filed September 24, 2010, Exhibit A.

FMTI was established in 1988 by purchasing facilities and lines located on the Fort Mojave Reservation from the then incumbent provider, Citizens Communications. At the time of the acquisition, telephone penetration rates stood at an abysmal thirty-five percent. The network covered approximately twenty-five percent of the reservation. Both the facilities and network were antiquated and consisted solely of analog technology.

In part, through federal high-cost support, FMTI has invested in a superior digital network, laying over [REDACTED] miles of fiber throughout its service area in order to vastly improve the quality of the communications infrastructure. Telephone penetration rates currently stand at ninety-eight percent and one hundred percent of the service area has access to the network.

2. Outage Reporting

In the previous twelve month period, FMTI has experienced no outages of at least thirty minutes in duration and affecting at least ten percent of its customers within its service area. 911 services were not impacted by an outage, nor did it experience an outage.

3. Service Requests

In the previous twelve month period, FMTI had no unfulfilled requests for service from potential customers within its service area. FMTI's facilities provide total coverage throughout its service area and, therefore, as directed by the Commission,⁵ would be able to immediately provide service to any requesting end user.

4. Consumer Complaints

In the previous twelve month period, FMTI had zero complaints per 1,000 lines.

5. Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection

FMTI provides wireline services throughout its service area and is regulated by the sovereign authority of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, including the duly elected Fort Mojave

⁵ Certification Order, para. 22.

Tribal Council. As such, FMTI is not regulated by state regulatory authorities. As a tribally-regulated entity, FMTI complies with service quality standards as promulgated by the Tribal Council.

FMTI adheres to consumer protection standards as set out by the Tribal Council and other governing bodies of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe. FMTI's local service tariff, containing its rates, terms and conditions, is available to the public at its offices. As a common carrier, FMTI is also regulated by this Commission. As such, it must and does comply with consumer protection rules including Truth-In-Billing, Customer Proprietary Network Information and slamming regulations.

6. Ability to Remain Functional in Emergencies

FMTI's network is engineered to remain functional in emergencies, including power outages. All of its exchanges and digital loop carrier units have backup battery systems and access to generators. Half of FMTI's four exchanges have permanent generators installed with the remaining exchanges served by two portable generators.⁶ FMTI's battery backup system is capable of a minimum of [REDACTED] hours of power.

FMTI has devised a plan to remain functional in the event of an emergency. This plan revolves around FMTI's business office being designated the command center in the case of a natural disaster or other emergency.⁷ FMTI has installed various backup battery systems and backup fuel for the batteries behind its technical firewall for business operations. These actions have resulted in a communications and Internet Service Provider network that can continue operations for twenty days without primary commercial power.

⁶ The remaining exchanges currently served by portable generators are being upgraded to permanent generators.

⁷ FMTI's business office is located adjacent to the tribal government's office as well as the tribal police force. Therefore, designating it as the command center is reasonable.

Declaration Under Penalty of Perjury

I, Linda Gutierrez, do hereby declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. I am the General Manager of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. ("FMTI").
2. This Affidavit is submitted in support of FMTI's Annual Compliance Filing, pursuant to *Report and Order in the Matter of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, FCC 05-46, (rel. March 17, 2005) and Sections 54.202 and 54.209 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules.
3. I declare under penalty of perjury that the statements contained in the foregoing Annual Compliance Filing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on September 29, 2011

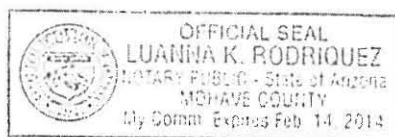


Linda Gutierrez, General Manager
Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.

SUBSCRIBED, SWORN AND ACKNOWLEDGED before me this 29th day of
September 2011.


NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires on: 2/12/2014



7. Local Usage Plan

The Commission requires that FMTI certify that it, as an ETC, "is offering a local usage plan comparable to that offered by the incumbent LEC in the relevant service areas..."⁸ FMTI is the incumbent LEC and offers local calling throughout its service area which extends into three states and covers the federally-recognized reservation of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe of Arizona, California and Nevada.

8. Equal Access to Long Distance Carriers

FMTI hereby certifies that it currently provides equal access to long distance carriers to all of its customers.

CONCLUSION

FMTI is confident that the information contained herein is sufficient and in compliance with the requirements as promulgated by the Commission in the Certification Order. If the Commission has any questions regarding this filing, please contact FMTI's authorized representative noted below.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Linda Gutierrez
Linda Gutierrez
General Manager
Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc.
8490 South Highway 95, Suite 104
Mohave Valley, AZ 86440
(928) 346-2500

September 29, 2011

⁸ Certification Order, para. 69.

Exhibit A

Exhibit A is confidential and proprietary in its entirety and has been redacted.

Exhibit B

Description and Maps of Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. Study Area

The Fort Mojave Indian Reservations is located along the Colorado River between Topock and Riviera, Arizona and includes 41,884 acres in parts of Clark County Nevada, San Bernardino County, California and Mojave County, Arizona. The following is a description of the communities within the service area:

- Arizona Village is an existing community which is located in the “checkerboard” Reservation and consists of 119 establishments with projected modest growth.
- The California portion of the Reservation consists of two separate areas – (1) lands totaling approximately 66 acres comprising the Fort Mojave Indian Village (California Village) , adjacent to the City of Needles, California, and (2) the upper California area consisting of a approximately 12,633 acres of “original” Reservation land located 8 miles north of the City of Needles. The California Village area contains 84 establishments including the Tribal Administrative Office. The upper California area has 16 establishments.
- Mesquite is a 1,000 lot home development which is being constructed on a 200 acre parcel of land, within Section 12, T18N, R22W of the “checkered board” Reservation. This development will occur over a five year period and will be built in five phases of approximately 200 lots (more or less) per phase.
- The Nevada segment of the Reservation consists of a Resort Hotel and Casino, housing units and a commercial complex/fuel station. A future development of Class 3 gaming facilities and multi-dwelling units is planning for this portion of the Reservation. The economic base for the area is the hotel and casino business in Laughlin, Nevada, across the Colorado River at Bullhead City, Arizona and approximately 10 miles north of the Reservation. The region is also a recreational and retirement area. The Arizona side of the river is a bedroom community and service center for the employees of the hotels and casinos in Laughlin.
- The remaining Certificated Reservation Land is primarily undeveloped farm land and is sparsely populated.

On July 26, 1988, the Fort Mojave Tribal Council, which is the legal governing body of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, passed a resolution (R-88-56) provided for the development of a full-service Telecommunication services within the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation.

On October 28, 1988, Fort Mojave Telecommunications, Inc. (FMTI) was organized under the laws of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, for the purpose of developing, constructing, owning and operating a state-of-the-art telecommunications system within the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation. FMTI is a Tribally-Chartered subsidiary enterprise, having a separate internal management which is capable of meeting the Reservations immediate and substantial long-term growth requirements for telecommunication services.

The Federal government has contributed to the success of FMTI. Key programs such as the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) loans and the Federal Universal Service Support have enhanced our ability to bring high-quality advanced telecommunications service to the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation. With these advanced services and economic development the Tribe has provided the community with a new Library, charter High School, Education Resource Center, Health Clinic, Social Service and a new Boys and Girls Club. We now have the ability to provide the building blocks necessary to our community.

The maps in Exhibit B are confidential and proprietary and have been redacted.